

to confirm the nomination of John Michael Vazquez of New Jersey to be U.S. district judge for the District of New Jersey. I would have voted yea.

Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for today's votes on Senator MARKKEY's amendment, No. 2982, and Senator CRAPO's amendment, No. 3021, to the Energy Policy Modernization Act, S. 2012. I would have voted yea on both of these amendments.

HOLD ON S. 2415

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I want to inform my colleagues that I have placed a hold on S. 2415, the EB-5 Integrity Act of 2015. I have been working for years to reform the EB-5 immigrant investor program, which is run by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and have introduced legislation with Senator LEAHY to overhaul the program.

Our bill, S. 1501, is a comprehensive approach to dealing with the fraud, abuse, and national security vulnerabilities. Our bill also restores the program back to its original intent to ensure that rural and high unemployment areas have access to this source of capital.

S. 2415 is a bill that is modeled almost identically after S. 1501; yet it is weaker and leaves behind many provisions that would in fact bring integrity back into the program. Late last year, I objected to bringing S. 2415 up by unanimous consent and have placed a hold on the bill because I hoped we could consider more effective measures to root out fraud and abuse and create real jobs and do it in a comprehensive manner that ensures the program is able to work for every part of the country for years to come.

As I stated previously on this floor, the failure to include needed reforms last year means the program continues to pose risks to the homeland. I am not so sure reforms are possible anymore. It may be time to do away with it completely.

Nevertheless, if we pass legislation to extend the EB-5 program beyond this fiscal year, I hope to work with my colleagues to achieve true reform.

HONORING CHRISTA MCAULIFFE AND THE ENTIRE "CHALLENGER" CREW

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I wish to salute the memory of the seven brave crewmembers of Space Shuttle *Challenger*, who perished on a mission of exploration and discovery 30 years ago today, on January 28, 1986. I honor the memory of all seven *Challenger* crewmembers: Gregory Jarvis, Judith Resnik, Francis Scobee, Ronald McNair, Michael Smith, Ellison Sizani, and Christa McAuliffe.

Indeed, Congress permanently honors the *Challenger* crew with a painted lunette medallion of the crew prominently placed in the Brumidi Corridor of the Capitol Building, one floor below

this Chamber. In that painting, six of the crewmembers are depicted holding their helmets in their arms, but one crewmember, Christa McAuliffe, is holding in her arms not her helmet but a globe.

For Granite Staters and for teachers and educators all across America and the world, there is a very special place in our hearts for Christa McAuliffe, a social studies teacher at Concord High School who was selected from more than 11,000 applicants to become the first NASA teacher in space.

During a year of extensive training at NASA before the mission, Christa created science lessons that she planned to teach from space while on board *Challenger*, broadcasting her lessons and observations to students all across Earth.

As a former teacher, I witnessed the impact that Christa's participation had on students and teachers. The *Challenger* was integrated into the classroom curriculum, allowing students to discover a passion for science. We continue to see the contributions of the *Challenger's* crew in the students who pursue careers in the sciences and in the success of recent NASA missions.

I am especially pleased to witness Christa McAuliffe's continuing impact in advancing education in the STEM fields—science, technology, engineering, and math—and encouraging young people—especially young women—to pursue careers in STEM fields.

A few months after the accident, the families of the *Challenger's* crew created the first Challenger Center for Space Science Education, a nonprofit that engages students and teachers in hands-on education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Since then, 40 Challenger learning centers have opened their doors in the U.S. and other countries, and they are expanding opportunities for innovative programs and activities in STEM.

We all appreciate that this is a very difficult day for the many outstanding professionals at NASA. On that day, they lost seven wonderful colleagues. Our heart goes out to the NASA family and the families of all seven crewmembers on this day of remembrance.

As an astronaut, Christa McAuliffe was on a mission to outer space. But, as a teacher, she was also on a personal mission to educate and enlighten. She opened the eyes of young people around the world to the wonders of our planet and universe. Today, we remember and honor her bravery, her passion for teaching, and her tremendous legacy.

HONORING OFFICER DOUG BARNEY

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, on Sunday, January 17, 2016, this country lost an American hero—Officer Doug Barney of the Unified Police Department in Salt Lake County, Utah, was shot and killed in the line of duty. He died honorably, doing what he loved to do: serving and protecting his community.

Every day of his 18 years on the force, Officer Barney made his commu-

nity not just safer but better. I know this not from personal experience—I was not one of those fortunate enough to have met Officer Barney—but from the community's response to his untimely death.

When the tragic news spread across Utah and the Nation, those who knew him or knew of him—and it was hard to live in Salt Lake County without knowing Officer Barney—sprung into action to support his family and to commemorate his life of service.

The most important step was taken first: to surround Officer Barney's wife and three teenage children with love, comfort, and assistance. The outpouring of support came not just from friends, family, and neighbors, but from strangers, too. Nanette Wride and Shante Johnson didn't know Officer Barney, but they were among the first to join his wife, Erika, on her long journey of healing. Indeed, Wride and Johnson came as fellow travelers on that journey—they, too, had suffered the loss of a husband serving on the front lines of law enforcement—knowing all too well the unique challenges facing the Barney family during this trying time.

Then there was the candlelight vigil honoring Officer Barney, hosted by the Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Association and the city of Holladay, UT. Despite bitterly cold temperatures, hundreds of friends and neighbors huddled to pay their respects to the man who had meant so much to so many.

That same night, another ceremony took place at the Utah State Capitol, as firefighters, first responders, and police officers gathered to receive the U.S. honor flag at the end of its thousand-mile journey from Fort Worth, TX. The flag has flown over battlefields in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as Ground Zero in New York City, and now, it is escorted by State troopers to communities across America that are mourning the loss and honoring the sacrifice of those who have been killed in the line of duty. It stayed with Officer Barney's body until his funeral, which brought together thousands from across the country.

This was not the first time Doug Barney galvanized his community. In 2010, the students, teachers, and administrators of Eisenhower Junior High School rallied behind Officer Barney who was in the middle of what would become a 12-year battle with cancer. To the students, Officer Barney, the school's resource officer, was "one of the good guys," so they organized a dodge-ball tournament—they called it the Battle for Barney—that raised over \$1,000 to help him pay for his medical treatment.

All of this stands as a testament to the profound impact Officer Barney had on the people and the community he dedicated his life to serve. Standing 6 feet, 5 inches tall, he had the physical attributes to be a good police officer, but as someone who genuinely respected and cared about everyone he